

Date: 08/27/08

# Web Announcement 207

## Policy Changes for Personal Care Services Effective Aug. 26, 2008

In light of the recent and ongoing State of Nevada budget concerns, the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy (DHCFP) has announced changes to Personal Care Services (PCS) program policy. The changes are necessary for Nevada Medicaid to continue to provide PCS services to qualified recipients.

Effective with dates of service on and after Aug. 26, 2008, bathing, grooming and dressing are now combined into one all-inclusive service with a maximum allowable time of up to 60 minutes per day for that service. In addition, exercise will no longer be a covered service. These policies will result in a decrease in service hours for the majority of recipients who receive personal care services. Informational letters and Notices of Decision are being sent to all recipients who are affected by these changes.

Additionally, DHCFP will modify the Functional Assessment Form and the Service Plan, which are used for service authorizations.

These policy changes have not altered the overall medical necessity or intent of the Plan of Care. If, upon receipt of the amended service plan, the provider feels revisions need to be made in the distribution of hours, please fax the requested changes with an explanation to 775-784-7935. The distribution of hours can only be altered to meet the needs of the recipient, not the provider or caregiver. In addition, recertification visits will only be done if the recipient's condition has changed significantly. Recertification visit requests will be reviewed carefully to ensure appropriate use of care hours.

The [Billing Guidelines](#) for Provider Types 30 and 83 and the Medicaid Services Manual [Chapter 3500-Personal Care Services Program](#) will be updated with additional details.